



SACRAMENTO - SAN JOAQUIN  
**DELTA CONSERVANCY**

3500 Industrial Blvd.  
West Sacramento, CA 95691  
<http://www.deltaconservancy.ca.gov>

## Action Items and Meeting Summary

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### **Background**

Action Items and Meeting Summary from Conservancy Board meeting on December 1, 2010

### **List of Attachments**

Attachment 1 – Action Items and Meeting Summary

### **Contact**

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SACRAMENTO - SAN JOAQUIN  
**DELTA** CONSERVANCY

**Action Items and Meeting Summary  
for the December 1, 2010, Board Meeting  
at  
3500 Industrial Blvd., West Sacramento, CA**

**ACTION ITEMS**

1. Staff will make corrections to November 3, 2010 Action Items and Meeting Summary for Board Meeting on December 1, 2010.
2. Staff will notify board members of any changes in the Executive Officer exemption request to the State's hiring freeze.
3. Staff will draft a letter to Governor-elect Brown, with a cc to Legislative Leadership, making him aware how the hiring freeze is negatively impacting the Conservancy's efforts.
4. Staff will move forward on the Workers' Compensation for Volunteers proposal, including providing Member Mike Eaton coverage.
5. Staff will complete the contract with the Department of Justice for legal services for the remainder of Fiscal Year (FY) 2010-2011 through FY 2011-2012.
6. Staff will keep Board updated on grant funding actions.
7. Staff will report on draft Spring Finance Letter and efforts to secure an environmental scientist for the Conservancy at the January 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.
8. Staff will draft a letter to the Delta Stewardship Council (DSC) for the Chair's signature, to inform them of our decision to adopt an Interim Strategic Plan and to fully engage in review and commenting on Notice of Preparation (NOP) and the draft Delta Plan in their January scoping meetings.
9. Staff will post the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDGP) PowerPoint presentation on the Conservancy's website by the end of the week, December 3, 2010.
10. Staff will invite representatives from the DSC to provide monthly updates at our board meetings.

11. Staff will invite representatives from the BDCP to provide quarterly updates at our board meetings, unless staff deems it necessary for a more frequent report.
12. Staff will research the availability of a hard copy of the BDCP's draft working plan.
13. Staff and the Strategic Plan Subcommittee members will provide a draft Interim Strategic Plan for review at January's meeting.
14. Staff will arrange for a tutorial on the Coastal Zone Management Act at a future board meeting, including the Conservancy's role in legislative mandates.
15. Staff will invite California Coastal Conservancy to present on the Dutch Slough Restoration project at a future board meeting.

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## **MEETING SUMMARY**

### **1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m., December 1, 2010, by Chair Mary Piepho.

### **2. Flag Salute**

Senator Wolk led the flag salute.

### **3. Welcome and Introduction**

Chair Mary Piepho asked Board members and audience members to introduce themselves.

### **4. General Public Comments**

There were no general public comments.

### **5. Roll Call**

Roll call was taken and a quorum was established. The following Board members were present for the meeting: Mike Eaton, Mary Piepho, Todd Ferrara, Dan Taylor, Ken Vogel, Jimmie Yee, Darla Guenzler and Lois Wolk. The following liaison advisors were present: Jessica Davenport, Amy Hutzler, Steve Chappell, Mark Wilson, Paul Robershotte, and Mary Grim.

## 6. Consent Calendar Items

Members voted unanimously to have the November 3, 2010 minutes corrected in three instances. First, on page 3, insert “beginning January 2011”, after “to change the Conservancy meeting dates to the third Wednesday,”. Second, on page 5, insert after “directing staff to draft a letter” the words: “pursuant to the direction and input of the body,”. Third, on page 7, Include “Post Meeting” and parentheses around the sentence beginning with “Robin Kulakow”.

## 7. Executive Officer’s Report

**Executive Officer** – Staff has not yet received an update on the exemption request status from the Governor’s office. Staff will notify Board when one is received. Board directed staff to send a letter to Governor-Elect Brown, and a cc to Legislative Leadership, making the Governor aware of how the hiring freeze is negatively impacting the Conservancy’s efforts.

**Workers’ Compensation for Volunteers** – The proposed Workers’ Compensation for Volunteers resolution was moved and seconded as written. The Ayes carried with one abstention, noting member Eaton needed coverage. (Ayes - Mary Piepho, Todd Ferrara, Dan Taylor, Ken Vogel, Jimmie Yee, and Darla Guenzler; 0 Nays, 1 Abstention – Mike Eaton) The resolution covers staff and board volunteers.

**CEQA Guidelines** – The proposed Delta Conservancy’s Adoption of California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines and Delegation to Staff was moved and seconded. The Ayes carried unanimously.

**Legal Services** – Staff requested expansion of the delegation of authority for the contract with the Department of Justice for legal services, covering the balance of this fiscal year and FY 2011-2012. A motion was moved and seconded to expand the Interim Executive Officer’s delegation of authority to approximately \$100,000 for legal services only. The Ayes carried unanimously.

**Future Funding Sources** – Staff asked Board to delegate authority to Interim Executive Officer (IEO) to apply for grants. When grants require a specific resolution naming them, the staff will return with those requests; this request is for all other grant applications. No limit was requested. Board asked that the IEO keep them updated on actions as they come up and that the grants be within the staff’s capacity to carry out, using consultants as needed. A motion was moved and seconded to delegate authority to the IEO to apply for grants. The Ayes carried unanimously.

## 8. Delta Planning Efforts

The provided table was reviewed; staff noted key dates to help members track upcoming meetings.

## 9. Conservancy Budget Report

Staff reviewed all budget line items with the Department of Finance, noting where mandated reductions would be made. Table 2 in the staff report shows the current

working budgets for Fiscal Year (FY) 2010-2011 and FY 2011-2012. The proposed Spring Finance Letter requesting additional funding will be presented at the January meeting. Discussions regarding the hiring freeze and the new administration followed. Board asked staff to secure the scientist position, full or part time, through a hire or through a contract, noting the contract may include the loss of the position. It was moved and seconded to accept the budget and for staff to return in January with a plan to secure a scientist. The Ayes carried unanimously.

#### **10. Strategic Plan Process**

Strategic Plan Subcommittee Chair Mike Eaton reported the subcommittee is developing an interim strategic plan. He reported that the staff-developed plan, led by Nancy Ullrey, was very well done. Members stressed the urgency to move forward as soon as possible. Staff reported that the subcommittee decided not to comment on the Delta Ecosystem White Paper, opting instead to complete the interim strategic plan and become fully engaged in scoping meetings in January. It was moved and seconded to draft a letter to DSC informing them of this plan. The Ayes carried unanimously.

#### **11. Update on DSC's Early Actions and Draft Delta Plan**

Gwen Buchholz, project director, consulting team to DSC, discussed the Early Action process, indicating that the DSC has no authority to implement Early Actions, they can only provide guidance. The Early Action Committee had identified 22 potential early actions; 4 have been completed already, 18 are under development or ongoing and part of the Delta Plan; they adopted 6 early actions; 7 proposals were 'non-urgent' (which she defined as not able to be completed before January 2012) and 5 were withdrawn by applicant as they didn't meet early action purpose. The Yolo Bypass proposal will be addressed in a separate letter at the next meeting.

When Members asked how the plan will be enforced, Ms. Buchholz responded that this is an item which will be addressed and developed in later versions of the Delta Plan. She also reviewed the schedule for the NOP and draft Delta Plan scoping meetings and workshop in January and February 2011.

#### **12. Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) Update**

Carl Wilcox, Branch Chief, Water Branch, Department of Fish and Game, provided a handout, BDCP Status Update 2/June 2010, and a presentation on the components of their 1500-page draft working plan. He indicated the Resource Agency will provide an approximate 108-page Summary of Highlights late next week, December 10. He shared that hard copies of the plan were not available as it is a working draft, but drafts are available online for review. Members asked about future funding for the project; he shared water contracts have been paying for the study and future funding is uncertain. When asked how the Delta Plan and BDCP will interact, Wilcox said the BDCP may be included in the Delta Plan. As the Conservancy's mission is not to provide a water supply, our role may be broader, including terrestrial/restoration, etc. Members

mentioned the Conservancy should be the implementing agency for BDCP. When asked how an earthquake may impact proposed tunnels, Wilcox shared tunnels are more resilient to earthquakes than above ground conveyances.

### **13. Potential Agenda Items for the January 19, 2011 Agenda**

The Board requested the following:

The draft Interim Strategic Plan be prepared for the January meeting.

DSC provides a report at each meeting.

BDCP provide a quarterly report, unless staff decides a more frequent update is appropriate.

The California Coastal Conservancy provides a presentation on the Dutch Slough Restoration project.

Staff arranges a tutorial on the Coastal Zone Management Act, including the Conservancy's role per legislative mandates.

### **14. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

### **15. Meeting Closed for Closed Session**

Chair Piepho closed the session at 11:15 a.m. to discuss the Executive Officer hiring process.

### **16. Meeting Adjourned**

The meeting was re-opened and adjourned at 11:45 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled January 19, 2011 and the first part will be in closed session for Executive Officer recruitment business. We expect the meeting to be re-opened at 1:00 p.m..

Respectfully submitted on December 10, 2010

*Susan Roberts*

Board Liaison, Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy